

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on March 23, 2016 at the Department of Public Health Complex, Room 470-A/B, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Jennifer Long, APRN
Carrie Simon, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member
Geraldine Marrocco, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy M. Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Kathleen Boulware, RN, Public Health Services Manager, DPH
Pamela Pelletier-Stevens, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Helen Centeno, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, DPH
Linda Fazzino, Staff Attorney, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:40 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from the University of Hartford, University of Connecticut and Central Connecticut State University

CHAIR UPDATES

Patricia Bouffard announce the resignation of Ellen Komar, RN from the Board. Ms. Bouffard expressed thanks for Ms. Komar's service.

An update on National Council State Board of Nursing issues will be deferred to the April meeting.

OPEN FORUM

NONE

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kathleen Boulware, RN, Public Health Services Manager, DPH provided an update regarding pending legislation.

SCHOOL ISSUES

Porter and Chester Institute

Patricia Donovan, MSN, RN was present to discuss a proposed change to Porter and Chester Institute's practical nurse program.

Mary Brown made a motion, seconded by Carrie Simon, to approve a change in the practical nurse program from 12 months to fifteen months effective July 2016. The motion passed unanimously.

Connecticut League for Nursing - RN Refresher Program

Jane Murdock, EdD, MS, **RN** and Susan Deane, MSN, RN, CNE were present from the Connecticut League for Nursing to provide an update on the transition of the Registered Nurse On-Line Refresher Program from Charter Oak State College to the Connecticut League for Nursing.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to approve the Connecticut League for Nursing RN refresher program using **American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)** criteria. The motion passed unanimously

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Helen Centeno, Nurse Consultant, DPH provided a synopsis of the scope of practice inquires made to the Department of Public Health.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FEBRUARY 2016

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed with all in favor except Carrie Simon who abstained.

CONSENT ORDERS

Amy Tagg, RN

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Consent Order for Amy Tagg, RN. Ms. Tagg was present but not represented by counsel. Jennifer Long moved to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Presley Eze, L.P.N - Petition No. 2013-899

Jennifer Long moved to affirm the Board's prior decision placing Mr. Eze's license on probation for four years. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Lisa Kuba, L.P.N - Petition No. 2015-739

Jennifer Long moved to affirm the Board's prior decision revoking Ms. Kuba's license. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

PETITIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION

Alycia Witzman, R.N. - Petition No. 2015-495

Attorney John Androski was present on behalf of Ms. Witzman. Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health. Attorney Newton indicated that the Department was not taking a position on respondent's petition for reconsideration.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, to reconsider the Board's February 17, 2016 Memorandum of Decision and to reopen the hearing. The motion passed unanimously. A hearing will be scheduled for June 15, 2016

Arlene Dumais, R.N., A.P.R.N. – Petition Nos. 2015-829; 2015-830

Ms. Dumais was present with Pamela Dole RN. Attorney Joelle Newton was present for the Department of Public Health.

Jennifer Long made a motion, seconded by Mary Brown, not to reconsider the Board's February 17, 2016 Memorandum of Decision in that (1) respondent had already complied with an education requirement set forth in the Decision; and (2) the Board clarified the requirement as to providing a copy of the Decision to any educational institutions should Respondent pursue further training in any subject area that is regulated by the Department. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

DAWN PALMER, RN

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Dawn Palmer. Ms. Palmer was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Mary Brown moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously.

Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing is scheduled for April 20, 2016.

GREGORY KLIMAYTIS, RN

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Gregory Klimaytis. Mr. Klimaytis was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Jennifer Long moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed with all in favor.

Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing is scheduled for April 20, 2016.

Samantha Angelini, RN

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Samantha Angelini. Ms. Angelini was present but was not represented by counsel.

Jennifer Long moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed with all in favor.

Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order. A hearing is scheduled for April 20, 2016. A copy of the Notice of Hearing and the Summary Suspension Order were handed to Ms. Angelini.

CONSENT ORDERS

Karen Greenland, RN

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Consent Order for Karen Greenland, RN. Ms. Greenland was not present and was not represented by counsel. Jennifer Long moved to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Dorsey Saunders, LPN

Staff Attorney Ellen Shanley presented the Board with a Consent Order for Dorsey Saunders, LPN. Ms. Saunders was not present and was not represented by counsel. Mary Brown moved to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

BREAK 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

HEARINGS

VINAL TECH – LPN PROGRAM CLOSURE

Patricia Fennessy, RN was present on behalf of the Connecticut Technical High School System and Regina Wrenn, RN was present on behalf of Vinal Technical School.

Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Mary Brown moved, and Carrie Simon seconded, that due the programs failure to maintain an passing rate of at least 80% of the students taking the licensing examination as required by regulations, the program be allowed to continue so that the current class can graduate in January 2017. If the current class does attain an 80 percent pass rate on the NCLEX examination the program will be closed.

Ms. Brown and Ms. Long were in favor of the motion; Ms. Simon and Ms. Bouffard were opposed. The motion failed.

Ms. Brown made a motion, seconded by Ms. Simon to defer fact-finding to the next Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Rachel Brazee, RN – Petition No. 2015-1333

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Brazee was not present and was not represented by counsel. All mailings of the Notice of Hearing to respondent have been returned as undeliverable.

The hearing will be rescheduled to April 20, 2016 to allow for additional attempts to provide notice to respondent.

John Sherman, RN – Petition No. 2014-1199

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen was present representing the Department of Public Health. Mr. Sherman was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Jennifer Long moved and Carrie Simon seconded that Mr. Sherman be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved and Mary Brown seconded to issue an Order revoking Mr. Sherman's license. The motion passed unanimously.

Matthew Hopkins, RN – Petition No. 2014-1199

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton was present representing the Department of Public Health. Mr. Hopkins was present but was not represented by counsel.

Mr. Hopkins requested a continuance so he could seek counsel. The request was granted.

The hearing will be rescheduled to May 18, 2016

Leslie Matejek, RN – Petition No. 2015-888

Staff Attorney Diane Wilan was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Matejek was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Testimony was provided by Dana Dalton, RN, Department of Public Health and from respondent.

Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Mary Brown moved and Carrie Simon seconded that Ms. Matejek be found as charged. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved and Carrie Simon seconded to issue an Order revoking Ms. Matejek's license. The motion passed unanimously.

Lourdes Mercado, LPN – Petition No. 2015-512

Staff Attorney Brittany Allen was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Mercado was present but was not represented by counsel.

Testimony was provided by Lavita Sookram, RN, Department of Public Health.

LUNCH BREAK 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to enter executive session to take testimony regarding a sealed exhibit. The motion passed unanimously and the hearing entered executive session from 2:12 p.m. until 2:19 p.m. No motions were made and no votes were taken during executive session.

Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to enter executive session to take testimony regarding a sealed exhibit. The motion passed unanimously and the hearing entered executive session from 3:40 p.m. until 3:50 p.m. No motions were made and no votes were taken during executive session.

Following close of the hearing the Board conducted fact-finding.

Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded that Ms. Mercado be found as for paragraph 1, 2, 3a (as it pertains to tablets), 3b and 3c of the Statement of Charges, but that she not be found for paragraph 3a as it pertains blister packs. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to issue an Order placing Ms. Mercado's license on probation for three years with a requirement for monthly employer reports, and, within the first six months of probation, respondent is to complete course work in medication administration; time management and nursing ethics. In addition, respondent is to complete eight hours of observed medication administrations within the first three months of returning to practice. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., Chair
Board of Examiners for Nursing